

SITE DESCRIPTION: FORSYTH COUNTY INVENTORY REPORT, 1998

SITE #19 NAME: Tanglewood Park River Section

SIZE: 15 acres

SITE SIGNIFICANCE: County. This wetland complex is home to many aquatic species, and is accessible to the public for wildlife viewing.

QUAD: Clemmons, NC and Advance, NC

LOCATION: At the southwest corner of Forsyth County, in Tanglewood Park off US158, park entrance is ½ mile east of the Yadkin River. Wetland areas can be found along the western edge of the park along the river.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

The site of interest is along the west (Yadkin River) edge of the park, predominantly the southern tip. Forsyth county owns this property which is leased to a private non-profit corporation. Many nice natural features are included in the park; state record black walnut and white oak trees, a handicap accessible nature trail and pond, and a variety of outdoor recreation activities. Some of the best natural features are the wetland areas in the river section of the park and adjacent properties. The wetlands include a forested vernal pool area, a freshwater marsh-wildlife impoundment complete with wildlife observation tower, an oxbow pond and a series of temporary pools scattered in the floodplain. This complex of wetlands is one of the most diverse, extensive and best accessible by the public and is therefore very significant in the county.

At this point the Yadkin River has a broad floodplain with mature Piedmont Levee and Bottomland Hardwood Forest communities along the park's western edge. Park property also includes a Dry Oak-Hickory Forest on the west-facing slope of the floodplain, and in other areas of the property.

At this location the Yadkin River is a 150 feet wide, fast flowing, generally muddy river. The river is high banked, with steep sides with pronounced levees lining the water. Periodic sandbars and deltas from tributaries also occur. Recent evidence of flooding indicates the ability of the river to rise and overflow the levee.

The quality of this natural wetland area is good and has been enhanced by the construction and maintenance of a wildlife impoundment that is managed for wildlife habitat. Viewing from a tower provides a good public access and use of this wetland resource. This site could benefit from a more thorough and continued study of the animal and plant communities present, which would provide valuable information about the Yadkin River corridor, and benefit the park with exhibit ideas and volunteer involvement.

OWNERSHIP: Forsyth County Parks and Recreation

PROTECTION STATUS: Protected as a Forsyth County Park